



## HMH-463 Commanding Officer's Policy on Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

---



***Sexual Assault is a crime and will not be tolerated in Pegasus.***

Sexual assault is a crime defined as intentional sexual contact that is characterized by the use of force, physical threat, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Consent cannot be given when one is threatened, drunk or drugged. Anyone can be sexually assaulted without regard to gender, race, age, or spousal relationship.

Sexual assault is a crime that is prejudicial to good order and discipline, is a complete and total contradiction to our Core Values, and destroys the trust in each other on which accomplishing our mission depends. Individuals who commit these crimes have no place in Pegasus and no place in our Corps.

Pegasus Marines step up, step in, and intervene to protect each other. Sexual assault happens in the barracks, at parties, on dates, in the workplace, and at home. The perpetrator is often someone the victim knows. Alcohol is often involved and used as a tool to lower resistance. If you see someone in a dangerous situation, I expect you to demonstrate the courage of a United States Marine and step in to protect a fellow Marine from harm.

Pegasus Marines take care of each other. Victims of sexual assault will be treated with sensitivity, dignity, decency, and respect. Sexual assault is an under-reported crime. We must foster an atmosphere where Pegasus Marines believe this command will support them and take action.

If you have been sexually assaulted contact one of our Pegasus or the MAG's Uniformed Victim Advocates (UVAs). Help is also available from the MCBH Sexual Assault 24/7 Helpline at 808-216-7175 or the DoD Safe Helpline at 877-995-5247.

Eradicating sexual assault from our Corps is an All Hands effort. Every Pegasus Marine must do their part.

Semper Fidelis,

R. P. MATYSKIELA  
LtCol, USMC  
Commanding Officer